

WARD III

News about your community . . .

TUCSON, ARIZONA



Karin Uhlich
Council Member

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER
2009

A Note from Karin

Dear Tucsonans,

While much of the fallout caused by the economic downturn seems beyond our control, one thing is certain: we can help each other weather this storm and emerge stronger than ever as a community. In this issue of the Ward 3 newsletter we highlight how our Ward 3 neighbors are contributing to our community.

During these hard times, when fear and anxiety can conspire to divide us, I want to do everything in my power to reinforce Tucson's core values, including generosity, compassion, volunteerism, hard work. We can choose to hold together and build strength from the ground up in our community, and I have no doubt the good people of Tucson will do exactly that together!

Please join me on Monday, October 26 for our next "Community Conversation" focusing on available resources for seniors in our neighborhood.

Thank you for staying in touch and giving me the opportunity to serve.

Karin Uhlich

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A Victory for the Neighborhood—Landlord Accountability Update

by George Pettit

Imagine that for the last 30 years you have lived next to a property that the police are at all the time. In fact, at the five-unit property, the police have been present at least 93 times in the last three years. What a sore spot in a neighborhood!

Well thanks to the persistence of two special people – TPD Sgt. Ron Thompson and Jane Baker, President of Balboa Heights Neighborhood, and the Landlord Accountability Initiative that “sore” is being eliminated from the neighborhood.

In Superior Court on Sept. 28th a judge accepted an agreement that calls for the property owner to terminate the leases and sell the property. City Attorney, Mike Rankin, says this is significant because it is the first time the City has secured an order from Superior Court that compelled a landlord to vacate and sell a property that has been such a blight on a neighborhood.

Sgt. Thompson, who put in many, many hours over the last couple of years on this project, said, “the City should have been doing this [Landlord Accountability] 20 years ago.” Ms. Baker, who has fought for many years to improve the quality of life in Balboa Heights, agrees with Sgt. Thompson saying, “The City should have had this type of program before.”

Council Member Karin Uhlich, sponsor of the Landlord Accountability Initiative, sends a big thank you to everyone that helped to eliminate the “sore,” especially Sgt. Thompson and Ms. Baker.

News coverage on this particular case was aired on KGUN 9. The Arizona Daily Star also had coverage on this. Links to their website are as follows:

Links:

KGUN 9 video:

<http://bit.ly/3x7Dwx>

Arizona Daily Star article:

<http://bit.ly/rhspG>



Jane Baker, President of the Balboa Heights Neighborhood Association.



Screen capture of KGUN 9 piece on Landlord Accountability Ordinance.

The **Landlord Accountability Ordinance** was passed by Mayor and Council in March, 2008 to give City of Tucson departments additional tools to deal with nuisance properties.

Dog Park “Wall of Fame” Fundraiser

by George Pettit

The North 6th Avenue Dog Park Volunteer Committee is pleased to announce the park's "Wall of Fame" tile project which has been resurrected, thanks to the efforts of the tile artist Jennifer Furrier, the Ward 3 Council Office, and Parks and Recreations Administrator Peg Weber. The Volunteer Committee is a dedicated group of park users that strive to make the Dog Park an enjoyable place for people and pets to meet, and would welcome input from the surrounding community.

Personalized ceramic tiles commemorating beloved pets or businesses supporting the Dog Park start at \$50 and up. All proceeds will go toward purchasing supplies and equipment, plus maintaining and improving the park.

Please consider purchasing a tile to acknowledge your favorite pooch, and be a part of this great community project!

For additional information, please contact Committee Chairperson Debbie Ross at 628-4344.

Avoiding Crime Tip—Please lock up your valuables

by George Pettit

There is a startling statistic coming out of the Midtown Police Division and it probably is not that much different across the City—33% to 50% of thefts in the City are happening under circumstances where people do not lock up their valuables. Police refer to this type of theft as “No Force Used.”

Tucson Police Department is specifically reminding people to lock up their vehicles—even when you run back into the house to get something you forgot. Also, don't leave valuables in plain site. Items locked in the trunk are not safe because almost all cars have a pop the trunk button in the car.

This might seem like obvious advice, but when such a large percentage of thefts are happening under these circumstances, it's always good to remind ourselves to take extra precaution with our valuables. For more safety information, visit the TPD crime prevention site at <http://bit.ly/1CP6OU>.



Here we have a picture of Valentine honored with his very own tile.



Map of North 6th Avenue Dog Park. Located at 2075 N 6th Ave.



Halloween Fun at Valley of the Moon

by Hector Arellano

One of Ward 3's most unique landmarks, Valley of the Moon, is celebrating Halloween by having a series of fundraiser shows through out the month of October. The "13 Nights of Halloween" runs from Wednesday's to Sunday's, starting on the 14th and ending on the 30th, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 7-3, and free for children under 7.

In addition, every Wednesday in October, Valley of the Moon will offer reduced admission with a non-perishable food donation for the Community Food Bank.

If you have never been to Valley of the Moon, this is the perfect time to go. Valley of the Moon is located at 2544 E. Allen Rd Tucson, AZ. For more information call 323-1331 or visit www.tucsonvalleyofthemoon.com

Ward 3 is Greening Up

by Holly Lachowicz

Many of you have visited the water harvesting garden at the Ward 3 office and have seen the humming birds and butterflies it attracts. But are you aware of all the other neighborhoods' green spaces being developed with the help of Watershed Management Group? Here is what Ward 3 neighborhoods are doing:

Northwest Neighborhood—is using water harvesting in combination with their traffic calming and green infrastructure improvements.

Grant/Campbell Neighborhood—they are learning to do storm water and residential water harvesting.

Samos Neighborhood—will be greening streets with curb cuts and tree planting.

In addition to neighborhoods, The Nature Conservancy's Water Harvesting Demonstration Gardens continues to expand and have many visitors. Likewise, the Southern Arizona Aides Foundation installed greywater systems on



Mysterious sign outside of Valley of the Moon.



Harvesting garden outside the Ward 3 office.



laundry machines to grow fruit trees and native plants at one of their community housing sites in Ward 3.

For more information regarding green issues, contact Holly Lachowicz at 791-4711.

Links:

Nature Conservancy of Arizona, <http://bit.ly/g3Zfp>

Southern Arizona Aids Foundation, <http://www.saaf.org/>

KIDCO at Marty Birdman Center

by Paul Taber

I'm pleased to announce that space has become available for the KIDCO program at the Marty Birdman Center, located in the Balboa Heights Neighborhood Park, 2536 N. Castro Ave. KIDCO is an after-school recreation program designed for children in kindergarten through 5th grade, and offers an opportunity for participants to express themselves through various art forms, sports, and games. KIDCO at the Marty Birdman Center includes a nutrition education program complete with free daily snacks. Program hours are weekdays 3pm-6pm, with early-out hours from 1pm-6pm on Thursday.

For more information, contact Paul Taber of Tucson Parks and Recreation/Marty Birdman Center at 791-5950.

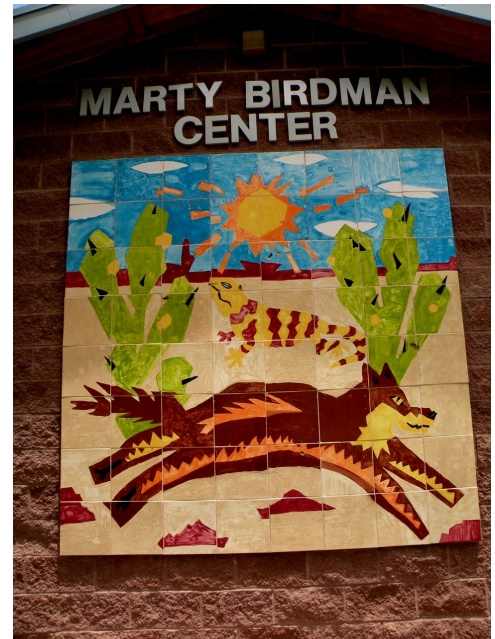
Community Dialogue a Huge Success!

by Linda Mehall

The Ward 3 office would like to thank everyone that came to the Northwest Neighborhood Center on September 28th. We were proud to host the first City-wide discussions on the current budget situation and appreciate all your insights. Approximately 100 Ward 3 leaders from 15 neighborhoods showed up. We appreciate your continued support.

If you missed this meeting, there are more locations and dates. For more information on dates, times, and locations for next the Community Key Service Dialogues visit:

<http://bit.ly/1SoHA7>



Beautiful mural outside Marty Birdman Center.



Karin speaks before Community Dialogue audience.



Neighborhood leaders discuss ways to prioritize neighborhood needs.

Out and About with Karin Uhlich



Speaking at Apollo College in Oracle before start of American Red Cross blood drive.



Talking to youth at Coronado Heights Neighborhood celebration.



Karin outside of new Super Target on Oracle.



She along with Mayor Walkup and Super Target employee.



The Council Member with Donna Liggins, Director of Northwest Neighborhood Center.



Karin and Mayor Walkup ride a Tesla electric car to demonstrate future clean energy alternatives.

Small Business Support

by Karin Uhlich

Local small businesses are tapping relief through the Small Business Administration! Visit the following website to learn more about debt relief and other resources at:

<http://bit.ly/3hPlp> (Small Business Administration Site)

Ward 3 will continue to ensure that every available resource for locally-owned small businesses comes right here to Tucson. Remember that you can support local entrepreneurs and strengthen our local economy, simply by buying local! Learn more by visiting the Local First Arizona website at:

<http://www.localfirstaz.com/>

U.S. Small Business Administration



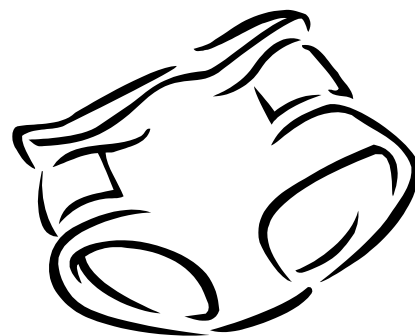
Your Small Business Resource



Diaper Drop-off at Ward 3

by Lisa Ross

Ward 3 is proud to be a drop-off location for diapers for all ages. We will accept open & unopened packages of diapers of all sizes. If you have any questions you may call our office or the Diaper Bank of Arizona at 325-1400.



Save The Date!

by Linda Mehall

October 24: "Tucson Hope Fest" 9am-3pm.
Tucson Electric Park.

October 24: "Christmas Wash Cleanup" 9am-11pm. For more info call Julia at 792-2690.

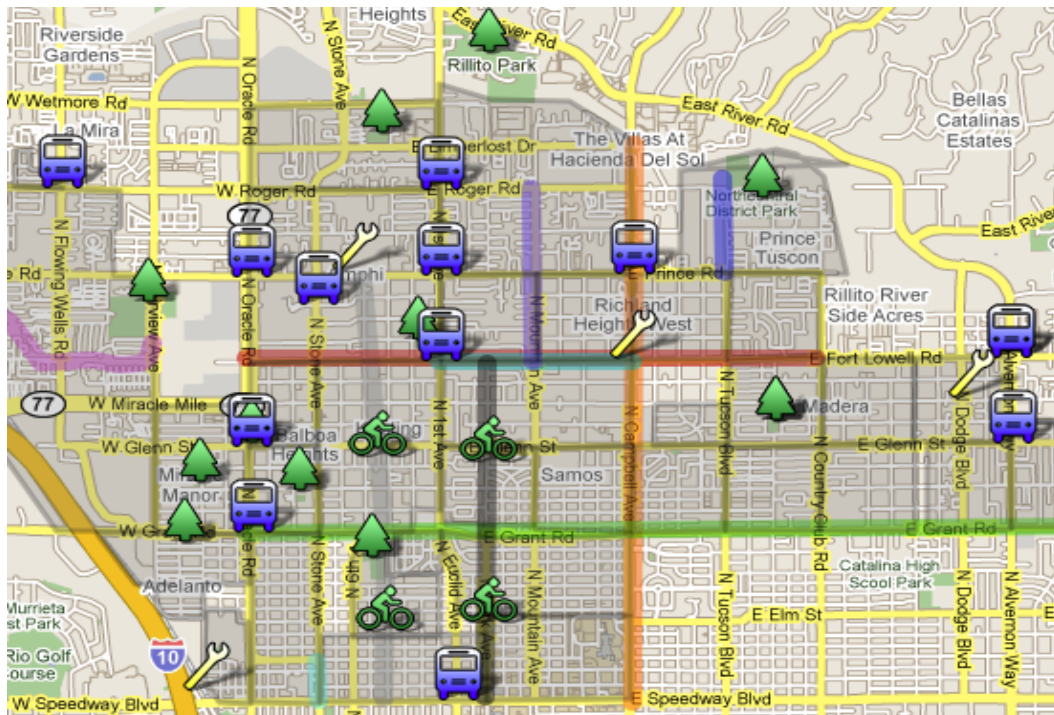
October 26: "Community Conversation with Karin Uhlich" 6pm-7:30pm. Ward 3. Topic: "Resources for Seniors"

November 7: "Continuous Chest Compression" class at Ward 3. 1 hour classes. 9am-10am and 10am-11am.. Sponsored by Save A Life. \$10 cash fee. Call Ronna at 623-8484. An off-duty member of TFP will teach the class.

November 7: "Lend A Hand" yard sale. 7am-noon. For more information call Michele at 248-6882.

November 11: "Veteran's Day" City offices closed. Downtown Parade begins at 10:30am.





Infrastructure Projects in Ward 3

by Tamara Prime

As an example of the hard work happening even during these trying times, the map above highlights infrastructure projects in the works in Ward 3. Both the City Department of Transportation and Parks continue to juggle a variety of funding sources and limited staffing to move forward with a range of projects. The following list highlights some of the improvements in process in Ward 3:

- **SunTran Bus Storage and Maintenance Facility, 4th Ave Bike Boulevard, and Tucson Boulevard Walking Path.**
- **12 New Bus Pullouts**
- **Lighting and Sidewalks** in Amphi and North Dodge neighborhoods and on Ft. Lowell, Stone Ave and Mountain Ave.
- **Intersection Improvements** at Ft. Lowell/Campbell and Grant Road/Oracle.
- **Playground Improvements** at Amphi Park, Madera Park, Hummel Park, Mansfield Park, Jacinto Park, Jacobs Park, and Rio Vista Park.

A more detailed view of this map can be found at our website

<http://www.ci.tucson.az.us/ward3/>

under "Infrastructure Projects in Ward 3 Map"

Key To Map Symbols

- Road Improvements
- Construction and Revitalization
- Park Renovations
- RTA Bus Pullout
- Bicycle & Walking Path

Ward 3

1510 East Grant Road

Tucson, Arizona 85719

Phone: (520) 791-4711

FAX: (520) 791-5391

E-Mail: ward3@tucsonaz.gov

Web Site:

www.tucsonaz.gov/ward3/

WARD 3 STAFF

Karin Uhlich, Council Member

Miguel Ortega, Chief of Staff

Holly Lachowicz, Council Aide

George Pettit, Council Aide

Tamara Prime, Council Aide

Linda Mehall, Office Supervisor

Lisa Ross, Administrative Assistant

Hector Arellano, VISTA Volunteer